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Should Know More About Our Guests

BETTER RECORDS should be kept of persons who enter and leave the California state institutions. Escapes from Sonoma State Home at Eldridge should be taken more seriously, even if the persons who run away from the institutions are regarded as harmless from the standpoint of viciousness.

At present those known to be of violent disposition are hunted down after their escape, or at least a serious effort to find them is made. But those who have no known criminal records are too often forgotten after an escape. Too often these so-called harmless inmates turn up later with quite impressive criminal records.

There is Rolland Guenneth, who, according to police, escaped from Sonoma State Home in 1937. This man was arrested in Truckee this week and sent to jail in lieu of fine for driving without an operator's license.

It was discovered during his confinement at Truckee that he had committed twelve burglaries and robberies in California and had served jail terms in seven counties under various aliases. The most amazing revelation was that he had entered this country illegally a few years ago from Canada.

Shouldn't we make more of an effort to learn something about the guests we entertain in our institutions? And shouldn't we be more concerned about what becomes of them after they leave?

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